

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, I was unavoidably absent on a matter of critical importance and missed the following votes.

On the bill, H. Con. Res. 253, expressing the sense of the Congress strongly objecting to any effort to expel the Holy See from the United Nations as a state participant by removing its status as a permanent observer, introduced by the gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. SMITH, I would have voted "yea."

On the bill, H.R. 4442, the National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Act, introduced by the gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. SAXTON, I would have voted "yea."

On the bill, H. Res. 415, the sense of the House that there should be a National Ocean Day, introduced by the gentlelady from Hawaii, Mrs. MINK, I would have voted "yea."

On the amendment to H.R. 4461, the fiscal year 2001 Agriculture appropriations bill, introduced by the gentleman from Oregon, Mr. DEFAZIO, I would have voted "yea."

On the amendment to H.R. 4461, the fiscal year 2001 Agriculture appropriations bill, introduced by the gentleman from South Carolina, Mr. SANFORD, I would have voted "nay."

On the amendment to H.R. 4461, the fiscal year 2001 Agriculture appropriations bill, introduced by the gentleman from Indiana, Mr. BURTON, I would have voted "nay."

On the amendment to H.R. 4461, the fiscal year 2001 Agriculture appropriations bill, introduced by the gentleman from New Mexico, Mr. SKEEN, I would have voted "nay."

TRIBUTE TO ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, March 29, 2000, a day when the U.S. Congress was in session, I was present on behalf of the people of my district at a federal bankruptcy court in Wilmington, Delaware before federal Judge Mary F. Walrath, to request the Judge's consideration of my constituents' heartfelt plea to help us save our community hospital. What follows is my testimony in open court—a tribute to St. Michael's Hospital.

Your Honor, I thank your Honor for granting me the privilege to humbly approach this court on behalf of the community interests of the 570,000 people of the 10th Congressional district in Cleveland, Ohio, a city which I served as Mayor and now I represent Cleveland in the U.S. Congress. For this matter is literally one of life and death for my constituents because their access to full service health care, emergency care (13,000

cases a year) surgical care and acute medical care is at stake.

St. Michael's Hospital, which was known as St. Alexis Hospital, has been the heart and soul of an old Cleveland neighborhood on the edge of the steel mills for 116 years.

I know the hospital well. I lived in the neighborhood. I worked there 36 years ago as an orderly, then as a surgical technician. I learned long ago about the spirit of this hospital—about its spiritual connection to the community, about how it provides over 400 jobs, and protects neighborhood health and neighborhood commerce. Our community has a lot at stake here.

St. Michael's has provided care, outstanding care for the sick and the elderly, including my own mother and father, and brothers and sisters, and myself.

It provides care for the poor, the indigent, for people who do not own cars, for people who are dependent on mass transit, for a large elderly population who wait patiently each month for their social security checks.

St. Michael's staff is totally dedicated. Some of its doctors still do house calls. St. Michael's has saved the lives, and prolonged the quality of life of so many people who I know and love and the lives of loved ones of many people here in this courtroom.

St. Michael's gives people hope. It has demonstrated true charity. The people from my district who have traveled here by bus including City Council representatives, are now obligated by the same sentiments of charity and hope to try to save the life of our hospital and to spare the tradition of neighborhood-based full service health care.

Today, when I walk the streets of St. Michael's neighborhoods, I see poverty reflected on people's faces, in the walk, in their clothes. I know the people well, because this is where I come from. This is my home. This is my heart.

I know that for many people in the community this hospital is the only institution in the neighborhood which enables the people to rescue some quality from a hard life.

And that is why I am here on a day when the U.S. House of Representatives is in session—because I can and do speak on behalf of 570,000 people and say that we plead for the wisdom and mercy of this honorable court, in considering the interests of the community. We respect that this honorable court cannot solve all the problems which beset the American health care system—indeed that is work for the institution I am honored to serve, but the court can help give the hospitals a fighting chance to survive, and in the process give the humble people of our community one last chance for the hospital to be saved. I ask your honor to please take notice of the fact that:

On the same day that PHS and Cleveland Clinic privately applied to the Federal Trade Commission for Hart-Scott-Rodino (anti-trust) approval for the asset purchase agreement to close St. Michael's and Mt. Sinai East—on that same day, PHS publicly announced its intention to keep St. Michael's and Mt. Sinai East open, notwithstanding the closure of Mt. Sinai University Circle.

Your honor, the people who I represent are humble people, many minorities, many from immigrant families. They take things at face value. They have trouble understanding people who say one thing and do another. They have faith in people, in one another, and in this court.

The truth is that notwithstanding the three year agreement which PHS and Cleveland Clinic made with the Mayor of Cleveland at St. Michael's:

The adolescent ward was closed in the past three weeks;

The detox unit was closed;

The ambulance service has been stopped;

The elective services have been stopped;

That today the cardiac rehab unit is being closed;

That women's center patients have to find other physicians. PHS did this without the physicians' knowing;

That one physician's patients received letters "to get another physician"—even though PHS never notified the physician;

All this has hurt our community. But St. Michael's Hospital lives. It lives despite PHS billing hospitals for a computer system which still does not work and PHS paying multi-million dollar consultant fees that in and of themselves would cover any deficits which may exist at St. Michael's.

We cannot expect this honorable court to solve the health care problems of America—but it is a fact that on the entire east side of Cleveland, as a result of the closing of Mt. Sinai, University Circle; no level-one trauma center is available. And throughout this process of closing hospitals the community; doctors, nurses and Cleveland City Council were not included in any talks. It is no wonder that the Council voted 18-0 to formally oppose the sale and closure of St. Michael's.

Your honor, I want the court to know that I am sensitive to PHS's position as a debtor in Bankruptcy proceedings and understand that PHS must sell these hospitals. But it seems, that to PHS, St. Michael's and Mt. Sinai are simply assets to be unloaded, worth more to them closed than open. But to the people in my district and in neighboring districts, these represent community resources and access to health care.

To Cleveland Clinic, St. Michael's and Mt. Sinai East represent competition to be snuffed out. That is why Cleveland Clinic agreed to purchase these hospitals only under the condition that PHS close them prior to purchase. That's a cold and heartless decision to we who are committed to providing access to health care for Cleveland area residents. It is cruel and it is inexplicable that St. Michael's, which provides 20 percent of its care to indigent and Medicaid patients must close to make way for the sprawling Cleveland Clinic which provides only 2.3 percent of its care to charity patients.

What makes it even harder to comprehend is that the asset purchase agreement freezes out willing bidders, those who would keep the hospitals open. Those who would keep St. Michael's doing what it has always done for 116 years, protecting the people's health care needs. That's all the people I represent want—to keep hospitals open, to keep access to health care.

I join with the objectors to the Asset Purchase Agreement in the request that this honorable court set aside the agreement for a closed sale and open the bidding to provide a clear, honest opportunity for our community hospitals to stay open. Thank you, your honor.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

RECOGNIZING MARION SHROYER

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Ms. Marion Shroyer of Vandalia, Illinois for all her outstanding contributions towards her community.

Marion has received several awards for her outstanding public service. She has received the "Abe Award," which is presented to a person for their outstanding contributions to their community. A tree was planted, in her honor, on the lawn of the Old State Capitol of Illinois for her outstanding citizenship.

She is an active leader in her church and dedicates much of her time to helping the elderly by taking them to the hospital and visiting with them in the nursing homes. Marion is an active leader in the Schoroptomist Club and has been a Real Estate Broker for over 20 years. She is a mother of two, a grandmother of six, a great grandmother of three and a role model for us all.

I want to applaud Marion for all her years of service to the great townspeople of Vandalia. For all you have done and continue to do, I thank you.

RECOGNIZING DR. EDISON O. JACKSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Edison O. Jackson, President of the Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York. Dr. Jackson, a resident of Prospect Heights, Brooklyn, and a member of the Ministerial staff of Bridge Street A.M.E. Church, is a outstanding citizen and a pillar of our community.

Born in Heathsville, Virginia, Dr. Jackson received a B.S. in Zoology, followed by a Master of Arts Degree in Counseling from Howard University. He began his career in education in the field of counseling, where he served for almost four years. In 1969, he was named Dean of Student Affairs at Essex County College in New Jersey, where he distinguished himself to the point that he was promoted to the position of Vice President of Student Affairs. In 1983, Dr. Edison was named Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer at Essex County College. In that same year, he received a Doctorate in Education from Rutgers University with academic emphasis on philosophy, function, role and administration of urban educational institutions. During these many years, Dr. Edison achieved numerous remarkable accomplishments so, when he accepted the position of President of Medgar Evers College in 1989, he brought with him a wealth of experience and knowledge in administering the affairs of educational institutions.

Dr. Jackson currently holds memberships on a number of civic, educational and community organizations. His affiliations with professional and national organizations run the gamut from the American Association of Higher Education,

to the President's Round Table and the National Council on Crime and Delinquency. Dr. Jackson has also written extensively on issues of concern to educators, with particular concentration on minority students and the community, academic preparation and student performance.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to note that Dr. Jackson is married to Florence E. Jackson, and is the proud father of two children: Eulaynea and Terrance. Mr. Speaker, I ask you and all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing the lifelong efforts of Dr. Edison O. Jackson, and wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, I was unavoidably absent on a matter of critical importance and missed the following votes:

On the first amendment to H.R. 4461, the fiscal year 2001 agriculture appropriations bill, introduced by the gentleman from Oklahoma, Mr. COBURN, I would have voted "nay."

On the first amendment to H.R. 4461, the fiscal year 2001 agriculture appropriations bill, introduced by the gentleman from California, Mr. ROYCE, I would have voted "nay."

On the amendment to H.R. 4461, the fiscal year 2001 agriculture appropriations bill, introduced by the gentleman from New York, Mr. CROWLEY, I would have voted "yea."

On the second amendment to H.R. 4461, the fiscal year 2001 agriculture appropriations bill, introduced by the gentleman from California, Mr. ROYCE, I would have voted "nay."

On the second amendment to H.R. 4461, the fiscal year 2001 agriculture appropriations bill, introduced by the gentleman from Oklahoma, Mr. COBURN, I would have voted "yea."

On the amendment to H.R. 4461, the fiscal year 2001 agriculture appropriations bill, introduced by the gentleman from South Carolina, Mr. SANFORD, I would have voted "nay."

IN CELEBRATION OF THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to spread the word. I spread the word of the many thousands of successful people with disabilities who have benefitted from the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the tenth anniversary of this historic legislation.

On July 26, 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act was signed into law. The nation's handicapped community was presented with perhaps their most important legislation in the history of the United States. With the signing of this bill, handicapped individuals were given the opportunity and the access to have their incredible potential recognized. For ten years now, the ADA has extended the American

dream to millions of Americans with disabilities. With this act, America has become a better nation.

Paying tribute to this momentous event, I commemorate the Disability Coalition Movement of Cleveland in creating "ADA Day—A Celebration". In sponsoring this event, the communities of Northeast Ohio are recognizing the previous accomplishments of the ADA, and envisioning the future success that will inevitably come. By bringing together area disabled and non-disabled for a celebration, ADA Day will further encourage a dialogue of anti-discrimination. ADA Day will continue to spread the word for all to hear.

Throughout my district and throughout our nation, handicapped individuals have impacted their neighborhoods. A message of awareness and understanding has been spread, and this message must only get louder.

The tenth anniversary of the Americans with Disability Act is a time commemorating handicapped people and applauding events like ADA Day—A Celebration. My fellow colleagues, please join me in spreading this important word.

HONORING DR. ANTANAS RAZMA

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, today I commend Dr. Antanas Razma, this year's recipient of the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture Man of the Year Award. This award is given to outstanding individuals who have contributed so much towards the advancement of their fellow man.

Dr. Razma is being honored for his dedication to Lithuania and for establishing the Lithuanian Foundation. As co-chairman of the House of Representatives Baltic Caucus, I want to congratulate and thank him for all that he has done and will continue to do for the people of Lithuania.

WE NEED JUSTICE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SURPLUS

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, today's New York Times reports that Democrats are showing greater interest in tax cuts. On the floor of this House at the beginning of this year I said that a tax cut was inevitable in this election year. Those of us who represent the "Caring Majority" must make certain that this coming tax cut benefits those most in need of relief. We must start with a cut in the payroll taxes. And beyond tax cuts we must spread the benefits of our blessed surplus to those in greatest need. We need more housing; we need prescription drug benefits. We need to invest heavily in education to guarantee American prosperity for the future. The following "Chant" sums up my position on this pivotal national decision.

CHANT FOR SURPLUS JUSTICE

People in need

Have no fear,
Budget surplus facts prove
There's 200 Billion this year;
People in need
Challenge what you hear,
The Nation needs your votes
And your voices loud and clear;

Read our lips,
The B word is Billion,
In ten years racing
All the way to three Trillion;

People in need
Have no fear
Both Compassionate Conservatives
And Democratic Idealists
Have rhetoric running full gear:
Prescription medicare benefits,
Phased family health care
The fantasy finished New Deal
Was never so near;

People in need
Challenge What you hear,
More than rich tax cuts
Must be spread on the table;
Deficit paralysis
Is a rotting fable—
End U.S. Gulag incarceration
Demand ten percent of leftovers
to revamp education,
Build houses for seniors
And families with low incomes,
Round out the rhetoric,
Allocate desperately needed sums;

Not a single hungry child should cry,
For lack of a pill
No elderly mother should die;
People in Need
Challenge what you hear,
The Nation needs your votes—
And your voices loud and clear.

INTRODUCTION OF RECOGNITION OF THE KING SALMON TRADI- TIONAL VILLAGE AND THE SHOONAQ' TRIBE OF KODIAK

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce legislation which will provide for the recognition of the King Salmon Traditional Village and the Shoonaq' Tribe of Kodiak, Alaska. For the past twenty years these two villages have worked with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Department of the Interior to seek tribal recognition. They have gone through the process at the Department of the Interior and it is now time to grant them recognition.

I have two other villages going through the recognition process at the Department of the Interior, and if at time of mark-up of this bill they have addressed the concerns of the Department, we may include the two other villages from Alaska in this bill.

ATROCITIES AGAINST CHRISTIANS IN INDIA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, recently a list was published of atrocities against Christians

ATTACKS ON CHRISTIANS (JANUARY–MAY 2000)

[Sources: the Indian Currents, 21 May, 2000]

S. No.	Date	Place/State	Description
1	January	Phillaur, Punjab	Sts. Peter and Paul Church robbed.
2	January	Phillaur, Punjab	St. Joseph's Convent robbed.
3	Jan. 3	Gajapati, Orissa	17, Dalit Christian house torched, 12 killed.
4	Jan. 9	Panipat, Haryana	Fr. Vikas of St. Mary's Church attacked.
5	Feb. 4	Raigarh, MP	Hostel forced to closed down.
6	Feb. 20	Pudiyattuvil, Kerala	Statues of Mary destroy.
7	Feb. 20	Sevit, Gujarat	Protestant Church damaged.
8	March 6	Mysore, Karnataka	BD threatens Bishop Roy to install Hindu statue in Churches.
9	March 8	Basara, Panipat, Haryana	Isa Mata Church attacked.
10	March 12	Panipat, Haryana	St. Mary's Church attacked.
11	March 12	Suryanagar, UP	Media Computer Centre robbed.
12	March 17	Changanacherry, Kerala	St. Berchman's College Chapel desecrated, robbed.
13	March 31	Agra UP	Police lock up two priests without charge.
14	March 31	Bulandshaher, UP	Nirmala School
15	March 31	Dasna, Masuri, UP	Fr. S. George, Christ Vihar School attacked robbed.
16	April 3	Panaji, Goa	Priest and 21 Catholics wounded by police.
17	April 5	Barwatoli, Bihar	5 Oran Catholic tribals kidnapped, 2 killed.
18	April 6	Mathura, UP	Sacred Heart School Principal Sr. Maria Pereira attacked.
19	April 7	Belatanr, Giridih Bihar	Holy Cross Convent watchman shot dead.
20	April 9	Bettiah, Bihar	Jesuit Social Centre (READ) stoned.
21	April 10	Mathura Cantt, UP	Fr. Joseph Dabre, St. Dominic School attacked.
22	April 11	Kosikalan, Haryana	Fr. K.K. Thomas and maid beaten up, house looted.
23	April 11	Kosikalan Haryana	St. Teresa's School looted, Srs. Mary and Gloria beaten.
24	April 14	Khagaria Bihar	50 Christians in Charismatic prayer attacked.
25	April 15	Timerpur, Bijnor, UP	Convent, three Catholic homes attacked.
26	April 16	Babupet, Chanda	Maharashtra Convent tabernacle robbed.
27	April 21	Agra, UP	Bajrang Dal attack 14 neo Christians.
28	April 22	Rajabari, Assam	Priest and 2 brothers seriously beaten in Church robbery.
29	April 22	Rewari, Haryana	Two nuns attacked, hit by scooter.
30	May 3	Paricha Jhansi, UP	Chapel desecrated, nuns attacked, robbed.
31	May 3	Dangs, Gujarat	13 Evangelist arrested for holding prayer.
32	May 4	Patna, Bihar	St. Xavier's School principal Fr. A.B. Peter Sj accused of sodomy.
33	May 5	Anabha, Gujarat	8 Protestant missionaries attacked with swords, Bibles burnt.
34	May 5	Bhojpur, Bihar	Mary's statue smashed.
35	May	Uchhal Taluka, Gujarat	Rev. Jhalam Singh attacked, Church damaged.
36	May 9	Nashik, Maharashtra	Protestant Shelter School for Tribal girls attacked.
37	May 11	Indore, MP	Fire bomb thrown at Dialogue Centre, 3 churches attacked.
38	May 11	Anekal, Karnataka	Anthony Selva, Jesuit student stabbed.

in India from January to May of this year. It listed 38 specific incidents just in a period of five months. This should indicate the depth of India's religious terrorism against Christians.

On July 8 and 9, two more churches were bombed. The pattern of Indian terrorism against its minorities continues.

It is not just the Christians who are being attacked. In March, the Indian government massacred 35 Sikhs in the village of Chithi Singhpora. This was confirmed by two separate investigations. Some of our colleagues may deny it, but the evidence is clear. This, too, is part of the Indian government's pattern of repression.

This pattern of repression and terrorism must be stopped. The U.S. Congress must take strong action. We should cut off aid to India until this terrorism stops. India should be declared a terrorist nation, as 21 of us recently urged the President to do. And Congress should support self-determination for the people of Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagaland, and all the minority nations seeking their freedom from India. Self-determination is the cornerstone of democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the atrocity list I mentioned earlier into the RECORD for the information of my colleagues.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM CENTENNIAL ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2000

Mr. HILL of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4442, the National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Act. H.R. 4442 would establish a commission to promote awareness of the National Wildlife Refuge System among the American public as the System celebrates its centennial anniversary in 2003.

For many years, my family and I have enjoyed hiking at the Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge near my home in Seymour, Indiana. And now a major new refuge has been established on Army property at the former Jefferson Proving Ground.

Just last weekend, I attended the dedication of the Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge at the former military facility. The new refuge encompasses more than 50,000 acres of grasslands, woodlands and forests and is home to white-tailed deer, wild turkey, river otters and coyotes. The refuge also provides managed habitat for 40 species of fish, 120 species of breeding birds, and the federally endangered Indiana bat. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has identified 46 rare species of plants on the site.

Mr. Speaker, the Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge is the latest addition to more than 500 national wildlife refuges managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. I urge all Americans to come and enjoy the beauty and recreation opportunities at Big Oaks. And while they are in the area, they should also spend some time at the Muscatatuck refuge.

These and many other refuges are often the best kept secrets in town. H.R. 4442 rightly commemorates the centennial of the refuge system and will help make Americans more aware of the tremendous assets available to them through the National Wildlife Refuge System.

SUPPORT OF THE WINDOWS AND GLAZING PROGRAM

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the windows and glazing program, which is funded through the Building Technology Category. This program provides funding for a promising new technology with enormous energy saving potential for the commercial windows market. This program would allow the further development of plasma enhanced chemical vapor deposition (PECVD) techniques for electrochromic technologies. This technology provides a flexible means of controlling the amount of heat and light that pass through a glass surface providing significant energy conservation opportunities. The Department of Energy estimates that placing this technology on all commercial building windows in the United States would produce yearly energy savings equivalent to the

amount of oil that passes through the Alaskan pipeline each year.

In recognition of the importance of this technology, the State of Florida has provided \$1.6 million toward the advancement of this program, and has allocated an additional \$720,000 in the State of Florida Fiscal Year 2001 budget. The program is being undertaken in conjunction with the University of South Florida and utilizes the expertise and patented technology of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Colorado. The State of Florida's program has made significant progress toward making electrochromic windows a reality. This program is an excellent example of successful technology transfer from a national laboratory as well as an example of a successful public/private relationship.

The Florida program is consistent with industry priorities and goals of the Department of Energy's windows program. I believe this program only helps strengthen our conservation programs. I encourage my colleagues to support this important program.

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY WORLD CONGRESS

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the 20th Anniversary World Congress, which is organized by the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences (SVU), under the auspices of the Czech and Slovak Embassies and in close cooperation with American University, scheduled for August 9–13, 2000, in Washington, D.C.

The central theme for this World Congress is: "Civil Society and Democracy into the New Millennium." It will feature speakers from both sides of the Atlantic and it promises to be the pivotal event of the year 2000 for those interested in things Czech or Slovak.

The three day program at American University will comprise numerous discussion panels and symposia, covering practically every aspect of human endeavor from the arts and humanities to social and behavioral sciences, and science and technology.

I am indeed proud to salute the efforts of the organizers and particularly would like to commend the efforts of Mr. Eugene L. Krizek, a resident of my congressional district, for his generous and untiring efforts on behalf of this project.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE RUTH FIRSCHER

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I request that the Congress reflect on the memory of Ruth Firschein, of Palo Alto, California, who passed away this week.

Known by her family simply as "Grandma Ruth," Ruth spanned nearly a century during her remarkable life.

Born in a village in Eastern Europe, Ruth immigrated to the United States as a young woman. She followed the classic path of many immigrants, landing in New York City, working hard to make a living in a new country, marrying, raising children, and assisting with the operation of a small family printing business, Firschein Press.

Although circumstances did not permit her to complete more than a grade school education, she took her children to the New York City Public Library, and taught them that books and knowledge are the key to understanding and success. The Firschein apartment was filled with books and artwork, radios and science experiments.

People who met Ruth were impressed by her intelligence, wit, charm, and leadership qualities. She served as an officer in a number of synagogue and charitable groups, freely giving of her time, and expressing her views enthusiastically, without hesitation or reservation.

Ruth witnessed much during her long life. She liked to tell about the time cossacks occupied her village and had a saber fight in the kitchen of her family's home. One of the swords accidentally struck her. Years later, she would point to the small scar and tell of the soldiers' remorse. One of them told her he had a little girl just like her at home.

Ruth was a link between the past and the present. She witnessed the birth of airplanes, televisions, computers and rockets. She watched as new waves of immigrants came to this country, retracing her life and her steps. In her later years, she would sit with new Russian immigrants, listening to their stories, and trading her own. She was a natural storyteller, and we are fortunate that a number of her stories have been recorded on tape.

Ruth leaves behind three children and several grandchildren. They remember her legacy of love for the world. She will be missed.

HONORING THE ARRIVAL OF THE "AMISTAD" TO ITS HOME PORT OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker: It is with great pride that I rise today to join the thousands gathered in New Haven, Connecticut to welcome the *Amistad* to its home port, commemorating the story of Sengbe Pieh and the Mendians kidnaped from what is now Sierra Leone, Africa. The *Amistad* replica will bring to life the legendary events of 1839 so that generations of children and adults will understand and share the slaves' courageous rebellion aboard ship, their difficult imprisonment, and their final vindication by the United States Supreme Court.

At a time of great division in our society, many New Haven residents played a key role in aiding Sengbe Pieh and the Mendians in what became a two-year legal and political battle for their freedom. Pastor Simeon Jocelyn, Lewis Tappan, and the congregations of the United Church on the Green and Dixwell United Church of Christ established the *Amistad* Committee whose mission was to provide for the Mendians' basic needs. They

gathered food and clothing, and arranged for students from the Yale Divinity School to teach the Mendians English so that they were able to communicate their story to their defenders. Roger Sherman Baldwin, a New Haven attorney who later enlisted the aid of former President John Quincy Adams, volunteered to defend the captives. Today, a statue of Sengbe Pieh stands proudly near the site where he and the other Mendians of the *Amistad* were first imprisoned. New Haven is proud of the role it played in this crucial moment in the ongoing struggle for human rights and racial harmony. We are honored to have the *Amistad* with us today.

There are so many wonderful people that have committed themselves to this project—their hard work and dedication to this cause has made this day possible. My sincere thanks and appreciation to former Connecticut Governor Lowell Weicker, responsible for securing the initial state funding and support for the project; Al Marder and the *Amistad* Committee, which recreated the original committee that first came to the defense of the *Amistad* slaves; the Connecticut African American Historical Society, whose work with the *Amistad* Committee and Governor Weicker established *Amistad* America; *Amistad* America, a non-profit educational corporation that worked with Mystic Seaport to build the replica and will continue to operate the ship; and the students and faculty of the Sound School in New Haven, who crafted a lifeboat, named Margru after one of the four children aboard *Amistad*, that will now be carried on the *Amistad* replica. The participation and diligent efforts of all these groups and talented individuals have produced a tremendous contribution to the history of Connecticut and the United States.

As we reflect on the 161 years of history that has passed since the original *Amistad* landed on our shores, it is important to remind ourselves that this continues to be an unfinished journey. In the United States, we tore our nation apart in violence before we put an end to the institution that brought Sengbe Pieh to these shores. In Sierra Leone, it would be more than a century after their native sons and daughters left their shores before they would be able to claim the right to truly govern themselves. Today, we watch as the United Nations and Sierra Leone's African neighbors help in its struggle for peace. If the history of the United States and Sierra Leone have taught us anything, it is that our journey towards peace, justice, and freedom has not yet ended.

Whether at sea or in port, the *Amistad* will carry this message to all who will hear it. A reminder of an extraordinary moment in our history, I applaud the inspired dedication that the New Haven community has shown for this project. It is with great pleasure that I stand and add my voice to all of those who have gathered today to welcome the *Amistad* home.

TRIBUTE TO THE 11TH GREAT DOMINICAN PARADE AND CAR-NIVAL OF THE BRONX

HON. JOSE E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, once again it is an honor for me to recognize the Great Do-

minican Parade and Festival of the Bronx on its eleventh year of celebrating Dominican culture in my South Bronx Congressional District. This year's festivities will take place on July 16, 2000.

Under its Founder and President, Felipe Febles, the parade has grown in size and splendor. It now brings together an increasing number of participants from all five New York City boroughs and beyond.

On Sunday July 16, thousands of members and friends of the Dominican community will march from Mt. Eden and 172nd Street to East 161st Street and the Grand Concourse in honor of Juan Pablo Duarte, the father of the independence of the Dominican Republic.

As one who has participated in the parade in the past, I can attest that the excitement it generates brings the entire City together. It is a celebration and an affirmation of life. It feels wonderful to enable so many people to have this experience—one that will change the lives of many of them. It is an honor for me to join once again the hundreds of joyful people who will march from Mt. Eden and 172nd Street to East 161st Street, and to savor the variety of their celebrations. There's no better way to see our Bronx community.

The event will feature a wide variety of entertainment for all age groups. This year's festival includes the performance of Merengue and Salsa bands, crafts exhibitions, and food typical of the Dominican Republic.

In addition to the parade, President Febles and many organizers have provided the community with nearly two weeks of activities to commemorate the contributions of the Dominican community, its culture and history.

Mr. Speaker, it is with enthusiasm that I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this wonderful celebration of Dominican culture, which has brought much pride to the Bronx community.

REPUBLIC OF TURKEY'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE KOREAN WAR

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize not only the importance of our strategic relationship with the Republic of Turkey but their historic contribution in the Korean War. Almost 50 years ago, in October of 1950, the Turkish brigade consisting of 4,500 army troops arrived in Korea. By the time Turkey had completed its commitment, 29,882 were rotated through the brigade, 717 were killed in action, and 2246 were wounded. These figures, the highest casualty rate of the United Nations mission, demonstrated that Turkey's reputation was well deserved.

The Turkish brigade's courage and contributions were repeatedly highlighted in the press at the time. For example, the battle of Kunuri was detailed in a TIME magazine article which stated "The courageous battles of the Turkish Brigade have created a favorable effect on the whole United Nations Forces." Their courage was also referenced on Capitol Hill, with former Representative Claude Pepper opining that, "There is no one left who does not know that the Turks, our valuable allies, are hard

warriors and that they have accomplished very great at the front."

Having become a member of NATO in 1952, Turkey also demonstrated its indisputable role in European security. Among all NATO allies, Turkey defended the longest border with the former Soviet Union, and carried a heavy responsibility in helping to contain, and ultimately defeat communism.

After the end of the Cold War, Turkey seized the opportunity to help shape the peace in the region. One of the first countries to recognize the independence of new emerging democracies, Turkey actively sought to assist with their efforts to integrate into the international community. Turkey provided them with direct assistance in credit and goods, military cooperation agreements to assist in building their national defense structure, scholarships for students to study in Turkish universities, offering an alternate route for transportation and communication facilities, and legal technical assistance and know how.

Turkey remains at the center of our energy security policy to develop the "east-west" access for the transport of both oil and natural gas from the Caspian region. This strategy would further shore up the economies of the countries involved, and encourage the development of democracy in the region.

At the time of the Korean War, most strategic thinkers would probably have envisioned Turkey as playing an important role in the future of European security, but the scope and breadth of the relationship which developed has most likely surpassed even the greatest expectations. Our relationship with Turkey has developed into a strategic one which we should continue to develop and nurture.

AIMEE'S LAW

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2000

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 894, the No Second Chances for Murderers, Rapists, or Child Molesters Act (Aimee's Law).

Each year more than 14,000 murders, rapes, and sexual assaults are committed by previously convicted murderers and sex offenders. While the United States has been moving towards lengthy mandatory sentences for a number of crimes, sentences for murder, child molestation and rape often fall short.

Aimee's Law would add accountability to the existing formula for distributing federal crime funds to states that convict a murderer, rapist, or child molester, if that criminal had previously been convicted of the same crime in a different state. The cost of prosecuting and incarcerating the criminal would be deducted from the federal crime funds intended to go to the state where a criminal previously committed one of these horrible crimes, and instead be sent to the state that is forced to prosecute the same criminal, for the same crime, against another innocent victim.

Tragedies like this are happening all across America, including in my home state. This type of tragedy struck close to home when a child in my District was molested and murdered by a repeat offender. Every day that we

wait to pass this bill we put another innocent person at risk of being harmed.

I urge my colleagues to support this common-sense legislation.

TRIBUTE TO BASIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a group of students and their teacher for their outstanding achievement and their remarkable understanding of the fundamental ideals and values of American constitutional government.

The students from Basic High School in Henderson, Nevada, were recognized for their expertise on the topic, "What Rights Does the Bill of Rights Protect?" at the We the People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution national finals held in Washington, D.C. The outstanding young people competed against 50 other classes across the nation and demonstrated their ability to understand and articulate the individual liberties granted by the Bill of Rights.

Additionally, the Basic High School students worked as a team to exemplify the ideals our nation was founded on. Their dedication, hard work, and unity truly embodied the three simple words in the preamble of our Constitution: "We the people."

The Constitution of the United States is the oldest working document in our nation's history, and thus the wisdom we have inherited is invaluable. As these students continue to carry out those values, we can be assured that our country will continue to strengthen and prosper. They will be ready to face the challenges of tomorrow and be leaders of our community.

The students who participated in the event are: Kate Bair, Joshua Bitsko, Ryan Black, Daniel Croy, Scott Devoge, Danielle Dodgen, Courtney England, Starlyn Hackney, Jill Hales, Alia Holm, Janae Jeffrey, Ryan Johnson, Aimee Lucero, Nathan Lund, Jessica Magro, Jasmine Miller, Holli Mitchell, Gary Nelson, Krystaly Nielsen, Mark Niewinski, Amanda Reed, Jeni Riddle, Leslie Roland, Landin Ryan, Alena Sivertson, Ashley Stolorow, Tarah Strohm, Tyler Watson, Kara Williams, Ricky Zeedyk. Other individuals who should be recognized for their love and dedication for the students are their teacher, John Wallace; State Coordinator, Judith Simpson; and District Coordinator, Debbie Berger.

I thank their teachers and their parents for investing and sacrificing for the future of America. And once again, I congratulate these students for their accomplishment, and wish them every success in future endeavors.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINE'S SOVEREIGNTY DECLARATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, ten years ago, on July 16th 1990, the Supreme

Soviet (parliament) of the Ukrainian S.S.R. adopted a far-reaching Declaration on State Sovereignty of Ukraine. The overwhelming vote of 355 for and four against was a critical and demonstrative step towards independence, as Ukraine was at that time a republic of the Soviet Union.

The Declaration, inspired by the democratic movement Rukh whose key members were veterans of the Helsinki movement seeking greater rights and freedoms, proclaimed Ukraine's state sovereignty and stressed the Republic's intention of controlling its own affairs. Ukraine and its people were identified as the sole source of state authority in the republic, and they alone were to determine their own destiny. The Declaration asserted the primacy of Ukraine's legislation over Soviet laws and established the right of Ukraine to create its own currency and national bank, raise its own army, maintain relations with foreign countries, collect tariffs, and erect borders. Through this Declaration, Ukraine announced its intention not to use, possess, or acquire nuclear weapons. Going beyond Soviet leader Gorbachev's vision of a "renewed" Soviet federation, the Declaration asserted Ukraine's sovereignty vis-a-vis Moscow, a move that only a few years earlier would have been met with the harshest of sanctions.

The Declaration's assurances on the protection of individual rights and freedoms for all of the people of Ukraine, including national and religious minorities, were extremely important and viewed as an integral aspect of the building of a sovereign Ukraine. The Declaration itself was the outcome of emerging democratic processes in Ukraine. Elections to the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet—the first in which non-communists were permitted on the ballot—had been held only a few months earlier, in March 1990; one-third of the new members elected were representatives of the democratic opposition. Even the Communist majority voted for the Declaration, reflecting the reality that the Soviet Empire was steadily unraveling. A year later, on August 24, 1991, the same Ukrainian parliament declared Ukraine's independence, and in December of that year, on the heels of a referendum in Ukraine in which over 90 percent voted for independence, the Soviet Union ceased to exist.

Mr. Speaker, since the adoption of the Declaration ten years ago Ukraine has witnessed momentous transformations. Independent Ukraine has developed from what was, for all practical purposes, a colony of the Soviet empire into a viable, peaceful state with a commitment to ensuring democracy and prosperity for its citizens. It has emerged as a responsible and constructive actor in the international arena which enjoys good relations with all its neighbors and a strategic partnership with the United States. Obviously, the heavy legacy of communism and Soviet misrule has not yet disappeared, as illustrated by stifling corruption, and inadequate progress in rule of law and economic reforms. However, the defeat of the communists in last November's presidential elections, and the appointment of genuinely reformist Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko have given grounds for renewed optimism, which is supported by evidence of growth in some sectors of the economy.

Mr. Speaker, now is the time for the Ukrainian people to strengthen and ensure independence by redoubling their efforts to build democracy and a market economy, thereby

keeping faith with the ideals and goals of the historic 1990 Declaration on Sovereignty.

A SALUTE TO COL. ALTHEA WILLIAMS

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Col. Althea Williams for her outstanding service to our country as an accomplished nurse for the US Army.

Her dedication to the Nurse Corps spanned three major wars following her graduation in 1941 from the Beth-11 School of Nursing in Colorado Springs, Colorado. In World War II, she primarily served in the Southwest Pacific area, in addition to Australia, New Guinea, Netherlands, East Indies and the Philippines.

Later in the Korean War, Williams served in Japan with the 279th General Hospital. Finally, during the Vietnam War, she served with the 44th Medical Brigade. As a result of her dedication and outstanding abilities, she was awarded with the Legion of Merit with an Oak Leaf Cluster.

Col. Williams exemplified outstanding service in other assignments including Chief Nurse at Valley Forge General Hospital, Phoenixville, Pennsylvania; Chief Nurse of First US Army, Governor's Island, New York; Chief Nurse at Madigan General Hospital, Tacoma, Washington and the 44th Medical Brigade. Furthermore, Williams served as Chief Nurse at the Headquarters of the Sixth US Army at the Presidio of San Francisco.

Throughout her years of patriotic devotion, this Platteville, Colorado native also achieved several other degrees. Initially, from the Colorado State University she graduated with a Bachelors degree in Home Economics in 1948 and soon thereafter another Bachelors in Occupational Therapy. Notably, in 1970 she received the "Honor Alumni" award from CSU. Finally, in 1960 she graduated from Baylor University with a Masters in Hospital Administration.

Since Retirement in 1970, working as a representative of the USO and volunteering around Ft. Collins, Colorado has occupied Col. Williams, which further exemplifies her commitment to service.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress I hereby thank and salute Col. Althea Williams for her steadfast dedication to the US Army Nurse Corps and for her leadership for our beloved country. On her 80th birthday, may she enjoy the bountiful Liberty with which God has so richly blessed the United States of America, and which Col. Williams has herself so completely and patriotically preserved for all posterity.

TRIBUTE TO FABIVS-POMPEY HIGH SCHOOL'S MENS VARSITY BASEBALL TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, June 24, 2000, the Fabius-Pompey Falcons

defeated Haldane to win the New York State Class D Mens Varsity Baseball Championship, a terrific finish to an outstanding undefeated season. The Falcons, Section III Champions, won the state Class D final with a 6–2 triumph over Section I's Haldane to top off a 20–0 season and a dominant playoff run.

Previously, Fabius-Pompey, representing the Onondaga League, defeated the Oriskany Redskins of the Center State Conference in a 7–2 victory to retain the Section III, Class D Championship again this year, their third consecutive sectional title. In that game, the Falcons' star pitcher, junior Bryan Porter, entered the state record book for most consecutive innings without giving up an earned run. To advance to the State Final game, Fabius-Pompey later defeated Section IV champions Schenevus (7–0) and Section II champs Hermon-Dekalb (25–0). This year's title win against Haldane avenges a 1998 Class D State championship loss.

Talent emanates from the Fabius-Pompey dugout, with five players receiving Syracuse Newspapers' All CNY Baseball Team recognition, including Player of the Year Bryan Porter, First Team's Nate Bliss and Mike Shick, Third Team's Bob Virgil, and Honorable Mention Tim Wilcox. The team was led by All CNY Coach of the Year Shawn May, completing his ninth season leading the Falcons, and Assistant Coach Josh Virgil, himself a former Falcons fielder.

Members of the 2000 Class D Championship team include: Nate Bliss, Matt Crossman, Brandt Ford, Rob Keeney, Matthew Morse, Mitch Morse, Bill Orty, Brian Porter, Mike Shick, Jed Smith, Corey Spicer, Robert Virgil, and Tim Wilcox. Coaching staff includes Head Coach Shawn May, and Assistant Coaches Josh Virgil, Evan Eaton, and Jim Keegan.

I wish to celebrate the outstanding athletic achievements of these fine young men and recognize their scholastic and civic accomplishments as well. I join with the entire Fabius-Pompey community—including Falcons fans, parents and other family members, and educators and administrators—in extending sincere congratulations for a job well done. This strong group of fine young athletes deserves special recognition.

NORRISTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA
AND MONTELLA, ITALY CELEBRATE
NINE YEARS OF SISTERHOOD

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable relationship between two wonderful cities—one here in the United States and the other in Italy. Nine years ago, the borough of Norristown in my district in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania and Montella, Italy established a Sister Cities program that has grown stronger each year.

Sister Cities International is an organization that motivates and empowers municipal officials, volunteers and youth to conduct long-term programs of mutual benefit and interest between two cities. Norristown and Montella have certainly taken advantage of this program. Norristown is an active participant in the

Sister Cities program and has been fortunate to develop a partnership with people of Montella in the Province of Avellino, Italy. Montella is the home for many first and second generation Italian Americans who now reside in Norristown.

Thanks to the continued efforts of Norristown officials including Mayor Ted LeBlanc and officials from Montella including Mayor Bruno Fierro and Councilperson Carmelina Chiaradonna, this relationship has been successful in creating an atmosphere in which economic, cultural and personal ties have been implemented and strengthened.

Later this month, Joseph Byrnes, President of the Norristown Borough Council, will travel to Montella to visit Norristown's Sister City. I hope this experience, like the other personal, cultural and governmental contacts over the past nine years, will be enriching and enlightening, and I am pleased to have him represent Norristown on this exciting occasion.

A TRIBUTE TO SHIRLEY COHEN

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Orange County's senior citizens it is my distinct honor to pay tribute to a great leader, my friend, Shirley Cohen. On June 30 of this year, Shirley retired from the Feedback Foundation at the age of 81. However, for anyone who knows Shirley retirement is not the accurate word. Shirley is merely transitioning from Feedback to become a full time political activist.

In the more than 23 years since Shirley founded Feedback it has served more than twenty million meals to frail elderly in their homes as well as to active elders who come daily to senior centers and community centers throughout the County. Shirley's outstanding work in Orange County has been recognized at the state and national level. Shirley has served with distinction as the President of the California Association of Nutrition Directors. She is also the founder of the group which is now the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs.

Shirley Cohen is a unique individual. She is creative, committed and deeply compassionate about the needs of seniors. She is often called upon by policy makers at all levels to help develop measures that will provide home and community services for seniors.

In 1995 Shirley was invited to join the White House's Conference on Aging staff. During her service to the White House Conference she made important, enduring contributions to the resolutions that were adopted and have since become the foundation for the aging policy during this decade.

There are few words to fully describe Shirley Cohen. I do know one—inde-fatigable. Shirley works all the time for Feedback in the community at meetings and forums. She is more than just a friendly face—she is force for positive change.

The people of Orange County and especially our senior citizens have had a tireless friend and advocate with Shirley Cohen. I know I will still see Shirley around town or hear from her on some important legislative issue at any time.

The Orange County Board of Supervisors recently passed a Resolution honoring Shirley Cohen.

Shirley Cohen epitomizes our definition of a great public servant and a wonderful productive resource as a senior citizen. I am very pleased to pay tribute to her today.

RESOLUTION APOLOGIZING FOR SLAVERY

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I include the following remarks for the RECORD.

INTRODUCTION

In 1865, Alexis de Tocqueville wrote, "When they have abolished slavery, the moderns still have to eradicate a much more intangible and tenacious prejudice—the prejudice of race. Differences [between races] have lasted for centuries, and they still subsist in very many places; everywhere they have left traces which, though imaginary, time is hardly able to obliterate. I see slavery is in retreat, but the prejudice from which it arose is immovable."

Those words, written over a century ago, unfortunately still ring true today.

WHY I INTRODUCED THE APOLOGY

A few years ago, I saw a television program with a black minister and a white minister commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday. They mentioned that there had never been an official apology for slavery. With the Civil War, with all that President Abraham Lincoln achieved, and with the Civil Rights Movement's successes, I found that hard to believe.

So I went to the Library of Congress and discovered that they were right—no one in the Government of the United States had ever apologized for slavery. I set out to correct this glaring omission in history, and in 1997, I introduced my simple resolution without much fanfare.

What happened next was a complete surprise. Debate about my resolution erupted at about the same time President Clinton began his "National Dialogue on Race." Some dismissed it as "a meaningless gesture" or "an avoidance of problem-solving." Some felt, as I still do, that this apology was overdue.

I received hundreds of letters and phone calls about the apology. Many of the people I heard from opposed the idea and some were outright hateful.

I know that my resolution will not fix the lingering injustices that were and are slavery's legacy. But, in any human relationship, reconciliation begins with an apology. I hope the official apology my resolution seeks will be the start of a new healing between the people of our country.

After taking care of my District, I focus on hunger and human rights. I have seen these problems in communities around our nation and the world, but I am not an expert on issues of race. What I do know, because I have seen it in rich and poor communities alike, is that there are deep divisions in our country's past and our present.

My faith leads me to a clear purpose for my life: to love God, and to love others as I would love myself. I know that I would not want my children sold as slaves. I know that it would

tear me apart if my wife was taken from my arms and given to another man. I know that I would be angry if I was beaten, whipped and killed because of the color of my skin. I do not want that for my neighbors, whether they live down the street or half a world away.

Americans have tried to heal our race problems many times before today, but perhaps we can find more lasting solutions if we change our approach. We have started new programs, invested money, and written countless reports. But, I say with respect, that has not been enough. We need to acknowledge the past, recognize the present, and hope for the future.

WHY WE STILL NEED TO APOLOGIZE

Personal Reasons

There are numerous reasons why Congress should apologize for its role in promoting and sustaining slavery. First, it is the right thing to do. If you offend your spouse or a friend, you have to say you are sorry in order to go forward in your relationship. It is so basic that we teach our kids from an early age—say you are sorry, or you can't play anymore; apologize, or you have to go to your room.

These three words—I am sorry—are a foundation for beginning again, a small price to pay for restoring lost trust, and a necessary first step in moving forward constructively.

Others have said it better.

"An apology would show that my government and president believe the enslavement of Africans for national gain was a grave and revolting wrong. It will document in stone for years to come the country's repentance for a tremendous crime. It is the right thing to do," a woman wrote to me in 1997.

"The fact that you want to apologize, says to me personally, that you recognize and accept my pain, the pain of my ancestors, and that you care about it," another letter said, ". . . in my lifetime, no one has done that."

"A general expression of sorrow is the starting point of any healing process," a journalist for USA Today said. "Of course, an apology has to be followed by serious acts of contrition, but any attempt at reconciliation that begins without one cannot be taken seriously."

I was most heartened by the thoughtful people like Clarence Page of the Chicago Tribune, whose first reaction was "why should we apologize?" but who came, to the conclusion, "why shouldn't we?"

This apology will not solve all of the problems, but it will begin new progress on issues that still divide Americans. It is never too late to admit a wrong and to ask for forgiveness. In giving those our nation wronged the dignity of this honest admission, we might all enjoy some measure of healing. And it will set the right example for our children.

Historical Reasons

Another reason to apologize for slavery is the historical precedent it will set. There have been many public apologies offered in recent years. In 1988, Congress apologized to Japanese-Americans for imprisoning them during World War II. In 1993, Congress offered a formal apology to native Hawaiians for the role the United States played in overthrowing the Kingdom of Hawaii a century before.

Other countries have also apologized: Britain's Prime Minister apologized to Irish people

for failing to help the millions of people who suffered and died during the great potato famine of the 19th century. East Germany's legislature issued an apology for the atrocities committed against the Jews during the Holocaust. Japan's emperor formally apologized to Korea for its conduct during its colonial period.

Slavery has been an important focus of recent apologies. In 1993, Pope John Paul II apologized for the Catholic Church's support for slavery, and for the violence of the 16th Century Counter Reformation. In 1994, the State of Florida apologized and paid reparations for its role in the 1923 Rosewood riots. The same year, the Southern Baptist Convention apologized for its past support of slavery. In 1999, the United Methodist Church's West Ohio Conference called for white Methodists to apologize for their ancestors' role in slavery.

Unfortunately, America's history is littered with many examples of missed opportunities to address the "peculiar institution" of slavery. When our Founding Fathers declared that "all men are created equal," we could have truly included everyone. When we established the Constitution as the rule of law for our new country, we could have treated slaves as full and equal, instead of treating them as three-fifths of a person. When the Supreme Court made its rulings, when our nation amended the Constitution, or when Congress wrote Civil Rights laws—at any of these moments in our history, we could have apologized for slavery. But we failed, and now we must go back and finish our history's chapter on slavery.

CONCLUSION

Last December, at the invitation of Benin's President, I attended a conference he convened on slavery and reconciliation. As I told the many dignitaries who attended, the tragedy of slavery and the curse that came with it will not simply disappear with time. All of us live with the legacy of slavery. Africans' descendants suffer from the guilt of having sold their brothers and sisters, and the effects of exploitation. Europeans' descendants are cursed with a divided society, blind to the fact that our own privilege perpetuates that division, and unaware of the need to repent. And African-Americans are plagued by the remnants of the institution of slavery and the consequences of bitterness.

Apologizing is humbling. To admit to a wrong, you expose your wounds and warts for all the world to see. But the United States is a great country, and it should be big enough to admit its mistakes. And it should be wise enough to do whatever is necessary to heal its divisions. I believe this apology is faithful to our past, and essential to our future.

H. CON. RES. 356

Acknowledging the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies, and for other purposes.

Whereas approximately 4,000,000 Africans and their descendants were enslaved in the United States and the 13 American colonies in the period 1619 through 1865;

Whereas slavery was a grave injustice that caused and continues to cause African-Americans to suffer enormous damages and losses, both material and intangible, including the loss of human dignity and liberty, the frustration of careers and professional lives, and the long-term loss of income and opportunity;

Whereas slavery in the United States denied African-Americans the fruits of their own labor and was an immoral and inhumane deprivation of life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness, citizenship rights, and cultural heritage;

Whereas, although the achievements of African-Americans in overcoming the evils of slavery stand as a source of tremendous inspiration, the successes of slaves and their descendants do not overwrite the failure of the Nation to grant all Americans their birthright of equality and the civil rights that safeguard freedom;

Whereas an apology is an important and necessary step in the process of racial reconciliation, because a sincere apology accompanied by an attempt at real restitution is an important healing interaction;

Whereas a genuine apology may restore damaged relationships, whether they are between 2 people or between groups of people;

Whereas African-American art, history, and culture reflects experiences of slavery and freedom, and continued struggles for full recognition of citizenship and treatment with human dignity, and there is inadequate presentation, preservation, and recognition of the contributions of African-Americans within American society;

Whereas there is a great need for building institutions and monuments to promote cultural understanding of African-American heritage and further enhance racial harmony;

Whereas it is proper and timely for the Congress to recognize June 19, 1865, the historic day when the last group of slaves were informed of their freedom, to acknowledge the historic significance of the abolition of slavery, to express deep regret to African-Americans, and to support reconciliation efforts: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

That the Congress—

(A) acknowledges the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies;

(B) apologizes to African-Americans on behalf of the people of the United States, for the wrongs committed against their ancestors who suffered as slaves;

(C) expresses condemnation of and repudiates the gross and wanton excesses perpetrated against African-Americans while the institution of slavery existed;

(D) recognizes the Nation's need to redress these events;

(E) commends efforts of reconciliation initiated by organizations and individuals concerned about civil rights and civil liberties and calls for a national initiative of reconciliation among the races; and

(F) expresses commitment to rectify misdeeds of slavery done in the past and to discourage the occurrence of human rights violations in the future; and

(2) it is the sense of the Congress that—

(A) a commission should be established—

(i) to examine the institution of slavery, subsequent racial and economic discrimination against African-Americans as a matter of law and as a matter of fact, and the impact of slavery and such discrimination on living African-Americans;

(ii) to issue a standardized, historical curriculum for use in public schools on the institution of slavery in the United States; and

(iii) to explore the possibility of establishing a scholarship and research fund; and

(B) a National museum and memorial should be established regarding slavery as it relates to the history of the United States, and other significant African-American history.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, on July 10, I was in Connecticut participating in my district's nominating convention and, therefore, missed six recorded votes.

I take my voting responsibility very seriously, having missed only a handful of votes in my nearly 13 years in Congress.

I would like to say for the record that had I been present I would have voted no on recorded vote number 373, yes on recorded vote number 374, yes on recorded vote number 375, yes on recorded vote number 376, yes on recorded vote number 377, and no on recorded vote number 378.

VA-HUD APPROPRIATIONS—
"ELDERLY HOUSING"**HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today against the bill because it does not do enough for the housing needs of the Elderly and Disabled. We must increase monies for programs to specifically assist these populations. There comes a point in time when everyone needs help and now is the time to help our Elderly and Disabled.

Dependence, vulnerability, and loneliness has become a lifestyle of the Elderly and Disabled who have no one to turn to.

The Elderly and Disabled of America are pleading to this Congress for assistance. As elected officials, it is our obligation to answer those cries and create solutions for those that are unable to fight for themselves.

This Appropriations bill falls short of meeting the housing needs of these groups by \$78 million.

In fact, 37 percent of Elderly and Disabled housing lack basic necessities. Specifically, hand rails and grab bars in bathrooms that enable safe independent movement have not been installed in many of their apartments.

We need more money for construction and rehabilitation services for the elderly under Section 202, and more money for these same services for the disabled under Section 811.

In addition, the proposed appropriations for Community Development Block Grant programs are \$295 million less than current funding and 8 percent less than requested by the Administration.

If this bill passes, New York would receive \$30 million less in CDBG monies, and \$6 million less than what was allocated in FY 2000. New York City needs CDBG money to revitalize our communities. And, the reduction of CDBG monies will reduce the number of households assisted by 11,425; and the number of jobs created by 10,340.

This bill doesn't provide a single penny for the program "America's Private Investment Companies." We need this program to stimulate economic growth and development in impoverished inner city and rural areas. APIC is essential to the development of economic em-

powerment in our districts. This program would lay the foundation to do this.

How can we eliminate poverty and increase the standard of living in our districts if we cut funding from the same programs we look to for solutions to our problems?

I cannot support a bill that will increase the plight of the Elderly and Disabled who require our help the most.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STUYVESANT FIRE COMPANY NO. 1

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the golden anniversary of the Stuyvesant Fire Company No. 1, located in Stuyvesant, NY. For 50 years, the members of this great company have selflessly dedicated their lives to helping their neighbors and friends, often putting their own safety on the line to do so. It is with great pride that I share a bit of their history with you and my fellow colleagues today.

July 18, 1950, marked the beginning of the Stuyvesant Fire Company No. 1. The first company meeting, held at the Stuyvesant Hotel, was attended by 38 members. At this meeting it was decided that dues of \$0.25 would be assessed to the charter members. The ensuing months were dedicated to establishing by-laws and a constitution for this promising new company. Fundraisers were held, earning the company the funds that were needed to build the house that would proudly bear the name of the company. In 1952, the Stuyvesant Fire Company No. 1 house was erected. The first official meeting was held within its walls on March 11 of the same year.

Fundraising has been a major theme of the firehouse, empowering the members of the community to take an active role in the betterment of this vital service. The diligent fundraising efforts of the company through events such as roast beef dinners and raffles, have allowed the company to make continuous improvements, thus improving its service to the citizens of the community. In fact, as a result of these efforts, in 1974 the firehouse was able to build a bay for a new fire truck at no cost to taxpayers.

In 1982, the fire company endorsed George Treitler as a director of the Columbia County's Firemen's Association and the next year he was elected as a director, which subsequently brought the 67th annual Columbia County Firemen's Association Convention to Stuyvesant in 1992. This honor was the culmination of years of hard work. Not only was the 67th Convention a great success, it set the precedent by which future conventions would be judged. In addition, the funds generated by the convention enabled the fire company to complete many projects and purchase needed equipment in subsequent years.

The Stuyvesant Fire Company No. 1 continued its tradition of excellence in 1996 and 1997 by winning the coveted Edward Rowe Trophy for best overall appearing fire company in the county. Winning this prestigious award in two consecutive years placed the company in an elite group of county fire companies with

only two other companies being able to boast such a claim.

Mr. Speaker, the Stuyvesant Fire Company No. 1 has achieved epic levels of success. They stand as proof that with hard work and dedication, great things can happen. I would like to thank them for their commitment to excellence and wish them many more years of prosperity.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIONS CLUB OF WEBSTER GROVES, MISSOURI

HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I wish to pay tribute to the Lions Club of Webster Groves, Missouri, celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year. This excellent service organization, from its beginnings, has had at its heart a commitment to the people and the community of Webster Groves. In 1933, the Webster Lions "established a nutrition project in the schools and helped to form better health measures in the home." The City's Health Commissioner at the time viewed the project as being "of unlimited value to the community and will be felt for many years to come." Christmas parties for children and care of orphans, the provision of tennis courts for public use, baseball fields, and support of an "Old Folks Home" in a neighboring community are some of the projects they have supported over the years.

As federal resources and support were reduced in Webster Groves in the mid-1930s, the Webster Lions increased their participation with the local chapter of the American Red Cross to provide for the welfare needs of the community. Expenditures during 1935 in today's dollars exceeded \$60,000 for community welfare alone. Their work with the American Red Cross during the worst days of the Great Depression was just a small portion of the good work in which they were involved. Their involvement and concern for their community continues to this very day, with sons and grandsons of the original members often taking their places in the organization.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Webster Groves Lions Club on its 75th Anniversary.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBEN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker—Yesterday morning I was unavoidably detained and unfortunately missed two votes. Had I been present I would have voted as follows:

H. Con. Res. 253, Sense of Congress Objecting to Any Effort To Expel The Holy See From The UN As A State Participant By Removing Its Status As A Permanent Observer—Yea.

H.R. 4442, National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Act—Aye.

TRIBUTE TO KOREAN WAR
VETERANS FROM PUERTO RICO

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call to your attention the considerable valor during the Korean War of Julio Mercado of West Haverstraw, N.Y., Donato Santiago-Molina of Paterson, N.J., Guillermo Alamo of Newark, N.J., and Asuncion Santiago-Cruz of Philadelphia, PA. I also wish to call to your attention the deeds and tragic deaths of John A. Pabon and Ramon Gaya-Arce, who were tragically killed in action as members of the 65th Infantry Regiment, which was comprised of soldiers from the great island of Puerto Rico.

Fifty years ago, on June 27, 1950, U.S. forces launched a military effort to battle communist North Korea. Soon after, they were joined by soldiers from Puerto Rico, plucked from their Caribbean homeland to fight on a distant continent. Many were dirt poor from hill country and didn't speak a word of English. Some became U.S. soldiers because they needed a job; others were drafted.

Waging war on some of the world's harshest terrain, through the sweltering heat of summer and the bone-chilling winds of winter, the steely group of Puerto Rican soldiers fought with incredible determination and courage.

These Puerto Rican soldiers gave their hearts to the fight and helped sweep the North Koreans back to the 38th parallel. Working side by side with the U.S. forces from Maine to California, they then attacked Chinese forces that had entered the fray on behalf of the North Koreans.

Through months of bitter battle, in which the warring factions worked themselves into a bloody stalemate, the Puerto Rican soldiers fought valiantly along side GIs from Maine to California, sacrificing their lives for the ideals of democracy.

Negotiators finally signed an armistice agreement at Panmunjom on July 27, 1953. The North Koreans returned to the northern side of the 38th parallel, while democracy was allowed to once again flourish in the Republic of South Korea.

In later years, the Korean War would be called "The Forgotten War." But for the Puerto Rican soldiers who gave everything they had to preserve freedom, this war will never be forgotten.

As we prepare to commemorate "National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day" on July 27, let us thank the Puerto Rican soldiers who demonstrated their love for America, although they did not have a vote—and still don't—in the affairs of this great nation.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to bring to your attention the actions of three individuals who have worked selflessly to raise public awareness of Korean War veterans from Puerto Rico. Specifically, Puerto Rico Senator Kenneth McClintock, retired U.S. Army Sgt. Angel Cordero of Paterson, N.J., who serves as a Junior ROTC instructor at Eastside High School in Paterson, and Ruben Pabon, Jr. of Northvale, N.J. should be lauded for enlightening us of the Puerto Rican veterans' valiant efforts on behalf of our nation. Sadly, Mr. Pabon is waiting for the body of his late brother,

Cpl. John A. Pabon, to be recovered from Korea some fifty years after the end of the war.

Let us all pray that democracy can reach every corner of the Earth, from Havana, Cuba to Beijing, China. And, just like our brave soldiers in the Korean War, may we remain ever vigilant against those who threaten our inalienable rights.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, the people of New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the United States in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to our nation of Julio Mercado, Donato Santiago-Molina, Guillermo Alamo, Asuncion Santiago-Cruz, as well as John A. Pabon and Ramon Gaya-Arce, who are no longer with us.

As we honor these men today, we in turn bear in mind the stand of the many courageous Puerto Rican soldiers against Communism, which has laid the foundation for the peace and freedom that America and many nations enjoy today. We also recall the grief of the Puerto Rican families who lost their children in this war, and remember the gratitude still expressed by the people of South Korea.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NEW
JERSEY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
MEDAL RECIPIENTS

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recipients of the Distinguished Service Medal, New Jersey's highest military commendation.

Through extraordinary courage and patriotism, each of these recipients went beyond the call of duty during their military service. Because of their dedication and sacrifice, America succeeded in its fight against naked aggression, defeating the dark forces of tyranny, so that the world could continue its pursuit of democratic ideals.

It is not difficult to comprehend the gratitude America feels for the sacrifices and contributions these veterans made to ensure our freedom; and the Distinguished Service Award is a wonderful way to show our appreciation. I personally want to recognize and thank the following individuals from my district for their distinguished military service: Salvatore F. Acerra; Thomas J. Beeh; Anthony J. Brescia; Joseph E. Callandrillo; Walter F. Camporeale; Harold E. Cerbie; Richard B. Clark; John P. Conlon; Anthony R. Costantino; John O. Coughi; John F. Dellaluna; Maximilian Desonne; Peter J. Di Stefano; George H. Edler; Max J. Elsasser; Craig J. Fallon; Sol C. Feith; Joseph T. Fitzgerald; Edwin H. Gaffney; John M. Habermann; Richard Hamilton; Sean Healy; John T. Hoey; Norman Holtzberg; Albert J. James; Edward K. Janiga; Robert J. Jones; John Keselica; George F. Kimball; Chester Latko; Harry Lazarov; John G. Le Pore; Patrick T. Lioi; Angelo Mack; Nelson Martinez; Emil A. Masciandaro; Anthony M. Melone; Robert Menzel; Conrad J. Minutillo; Augustine A. Monahan; Alphonso J. Mosca; Michael J. Napolitano; Donald T. Nevins; Vincent L. Ortizio; Robert V. Palmeri; Ralph C. Pasqua; John H. Phillips; Howard J. Plunkett Jr.; Joseph A. Pona; Antonio Raffaele Jr.;

James A. Robinson; Ivan Romero; Joseph E. Rooth; Richard F. Rush; William A. Sears; Granger W. Searvance Sr.; Francis H. Seidal; Anthony Sikora; Albert F. Skirpstunas; Joseph H. Skrocki; James W. Smith; Edward J. Stacy; Walter Suty; Francis P. Trench; Francis H. Vannucchi; Miguel Vazquez; Dominick J. Vitone; Frank B. Wasniewski; Sanford L. Weiss; Eugene J. Wickeresty; Joseph Wigodner; L. Harry Wolpert; Francis Woods; and Anthony F. Zucaro.

Today, it is my honor to recognize these exceptional individuals. With courage, honor, and integrity they have each made invaluable and enduring contributions to America. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing them as well.

LIVE A LITTLE

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I have for some time felt that we have over-emphasized the importance of holding down the cost of medical care as a general principle. The notion that if the total amount we spend on medical care in all of its facets as a percentage of the gross domestic product exceeds some arbitrary figure we will be damaged economically is demonstrably false. A dozen years ago or so, people were convinced that America's economic performance was being retarded because we spent too much on medical care. No one can now make that argument, given the strength of our economy, and the continued high percentage that medical care absorbs of our gross domestic product compared to many other countries.

Indeed, I believe this notion that medical care costs must be held down despite the good that is accomplished by medical care expenditures has caused us serious problems in recent years. The ill-advised, ill-named Balanced Budget Act of 1997 inflicted serious cuts on the Medicare program from which health care providers and patients are still suffering, and undoing this terrible mistake is long overdue.

Because I feel this very strongly, I was especially pleased in a conversation with journalist Jonathan Cohn to learn that he had written on the subject, and I asked him to send me a copy of the article. Having read it, I am delighted to share it with my colleagues. It is a year old, but it is not old in any other sense. Mr. Cohn's arguments are cogent and supported by our experience. As Mr. Cohn notes, "among all of the things a nation's wealth could buy, surely the health of its citizens is near the top." I am very pleased that Mr. Cohn has set forward the argument for adequately funding our medical care needs in so a persuasive a fashion, and because this continues to be a matter of some debate in the Congress, I submit his article from the June 7 New Republic on this topic to be reprinted here.

[From The New Republic, June 7, 1999]

LIVE A LITTLE

(Jonathan Cohn)

My grandfather survived three heart attacks and a stroke over the course of his lifetime. And he did so thanks to some of the

best medicine that insurance could buy: a heart bypass operation, extensive hospitalization, plus literally thousands of hours of one-on-one nursing care after the stroke left him partially paralyzed. I remember when the stroke hit: the doctors predicted he'd live maybe nine more months. That was in 1986. He passed away last year.

It would be near impossible to add up my grandfather's medical bills, but I'm sure they totaled hundreds of thousands of dollars. He benefited from a wide range of pharmaceutical products, the most advanced medical technology in the world, and care from highly trained specialists. Above all, he benefited from a health care financing system willing to subsidize such extravagance at every level—from the training of the surgeons to the research that invented blood-thinners to the salary of the worker who lifted him in and out of his wheelchair every day.

I thought about that last week when I read an article on rising health insurance premiums. It was merely the latest confirmation of a trend many economists have long predicted: that, after years of stability, the real price of health care in America is about to start climbing again. According to a study published last fall in the journal *Health Affairs*, the nation's total health care bill will likely go up by 3.4 percent annually over the next four years—compared with a rate of just 1.5 percent in the period from 1993 to 1996. By 2007, the study predicted, health care will soak up 16 percent of the gross domestic product. That would be quite a lot of money, particularly when you consider that we already sink more than 13 percent of GDP into health care—more than any other nation and well more than we spent in 1970, when health care was just seven percent of GDP.

The predictions are probably right. Today, about 85 percent of Americans who hold private insurance are enrolled in health maintenance organizations or other forms of managed care, which hold down costs by emphasizing preventive medicine; controlling access to tests, treatments, and specialists; and simply bidding down the services of doctors and hospitals. Most of the people in these plans shifted over from costly fee-for-service insurance only in the past few years, and that transformation is the primary reason health care spending has remained stable during that time. But the cost containment from HMOs seems to have been a onetime phenomenon. Now expenditures on health care are going back up, if at a somewhat reduced clip, in part because people are starting to demand some of the things HMOs have been denying them, in part because the population is living longer, and in part because researchers continue to come up with expensive new technological innovations that patients want, from Viagra to the protease inhibitors that keep HIV in check.

Once the bill for all of this spending comes due, in the form of higher insurance premiums and more government spending, you can bet that a chorus of experts and high-minded officials will start insisting that we're spending too much. Some will do what former Colorado Governor Richard Lamm did back in 1992: they'll come right out and say we need to stop coddling the elderly with the kind of "long-shot medicine" that sustained my grandfather and made him more comfortable in his final years. Others will strike more cautious tones, preaching the need to be more efficient in our outlays, but the end result will be much the same: less generous care particularly at the margins. In a sense, we're already hearing early versions of this argument in the ongoing debate over Social Security and Medicare—two programs in which the current level of expenditures is widely believed to be unsustainable over the long run.

But this may be a case where the average citizen, who intuitively wants to keep spending that money, knows more than the average expert, who insists it's not possible. After all, we spend far more on computers than we did 20 years ago, but nobody makes a fuss about that. The reason is that computers have made economy stronger and our lives discernibly easier. Well, the same logic ought to apply to health care. Among all of the things a nation's wealth could buy, surely the health of its citizens is near the top. And, while some critics might carp about inefficiency in the system, that inefficiency keeps a good chunk of our country employed—while enabling the population as a whole to work longer and harder.

To be sure, many critics question whether our robust health care spending really translates into robust health. They argue that, even though European nations spend less on health care, the differences in health care "outcomes" and life expectancy are minimal. But it is notoriously difficult to measure the impact of health care spending. For one thing, those comparatively frugal counties benefit from the pharmaceuticals and treatments largely subsidized by big spending in the United States. What's more, the benefit of more health care spending may be simply to provide a few more weeks here and there, or to make life just a little more comfortable for some of the nation's sickest people. This is not the kind of thing that makes a big difference statistically, but it is the kind of thing a society might rightly deem important. After all, this is what usually happens in societies as they progress economically: the percentage of labor time spent on producing bare necessities—food, shelter, and clothing—shrinks, freeing up greater resources for making life more pleasant.

This isn't to say we parcel out all of our health care dollars wisely. Among other things, we currently subsidize emergency care for the uninsured, which is at once very expensive and not terribly efficient at keeping people healthy, while denying them the basic care most other nations offer as a privilege of citizenship. But the solution to this problem is not to worry excessively about how big the bill has gotten; if anything, we should be making the case for spending even more money and then making sure it's meted out on a more egalitarian basis. (Sound crazy? No less a sober mind than MIT economist Paul Krugman once made a similar argument, speculating that spending as much as 30 percent of GDP on health care might not be unreasonable.)

Yes, there is one catch. If you want to spend that much money on health care, you have to find the money to spend. But that's not a problem—or, at least, it shouldn't be. We have enjoyed enormous gains in productivity over the past few years, which means as a nation we are creating more wealth—wealth that can easily be directed to health care rather than to, say, sport utility vehicles, either in the form of higher insurance premiums or (heaven forbid!) higher taxes. "The alternatives uses of our resources are not necessarily more noble," Mickey Kaus once wrote in this space. He's right. There are a lot of things we could have bought my grandfather in his final months. But none was as valuable as the time itself.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL
DEBRA M. LEWIS

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Lt. Col. Debra M. Lewis, the departing Commander and District Engineer of the Philadelphia District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Colonel Lewis fills many roles in her life. She is a mother to Emily, wife, daughter, sister, equestrian, mentor to many, friend to even more, and last, but not least, a U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel. She brings great strength, vitality and dedication to all the facets of her life, but it is her allegiance to her country that prompts me to honor her today.

As Commander of the Philadelphia District of the Army Corps of Engineers, she oversees the Delaware River Basin, approximately 13,000 miles spread across the five states of Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, New York and Maryland. More than 550 civilian and military personnel dedicate their efforts to carry out Corps projects at the request of local and state agencies, as authorized by Congress. Flood control, navigation, military installation support and environmental restoration are key missions of the Philadelphia District, which is a lead partner in the plan to preserve and protect the region and its water resources.

I have also enjoyed working with Colonel Lewis on many occasions. Her professionalism, expertise, and dedication to the Army Corps of Engineers have been an integral part of the success of the Delaware River Main Channel Deepening Project. I have also enjoyed working with Colonel Lewis on my vision for Philadelphia—the redevelopment and the revitalization of the Delaware River waterfront. Her support has enabled this new project to move forward.

Colonel Lewis came to the Philadelphia District two years ago uniquely qualified to serve as its first female commander. A woman of many firsts, Debra Lewis is a member of the first class to graduate women from West Point. She was also the U.S. Military Academy's first female captain of its highly successful intercollegiate equestrian team, and also the 1980 Academy Equestrian of the Year. Her initiative and perseverance have seen her through many challenging circumstances.

In addition to her other pursuits, Colonel Lewis enjoys collecting quotations. Her personal motto: Attitude is everything. But I would offer one from Harvey Firestone, who once said, "You get the best out of others when you give the best of yourself." It is my opinion that Lieutenant Colonel Debra M. Lewis is the embodiment of that sentiment.

Mr. Speaker, Lieutenant Colonel Debra M. Lewis should be commended for her 18 years of military service in the United States Army and is congratulated for a job well done for her performance as Commander and District Engineer of the Philadelphia District, United States Army Corps of Engineers. I offer her my very best wishes for continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on June 10 and 11, 2000, I was detained with business in my District, and therefore unable to cast my votes on rollcall numbers 373 through 385. Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 375, 377, 379, 380, 381, 382, and 385; and "nay" on rollcall votes 373, 374, 376, 378, 383, and 384.

ENHANCED FEDERAL SECURITY
ACT OF 2000, H.R. 4827**HON. STEPHEN HORN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Enhanced Federal Security Act of 2000. H.R. 4827 seeks to prohibit those who abuse forms of false identification, including the law enforcement badge, from committing crimes against innocent people. This legislation is an expanded and improved version of my earlier proposal, the Police Badge Fraud Prevention Act, H.R. 2633.

The Enhanced Federal Security Act prohibits entry under fraudulent or false pretense to Federal Government buildings and the secure area of any airport. It also bans the interstate and foreign trafficking of counterfeit and genuine police badges, among those not authorized to possess such a badge.

H.R. 4827 addresses serious issues of security and public safety. Recently, the General Accounting Office conducted an undercover investigation of security in Federal Government buildings at the request of Representative BILL MCCOLLUM, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Crime. This investigation revealed critical lapses in policy at these government buildings which allowed unauthorized individuals access to secure areas, placing not only the individuals in those areas in danger, but jeopardizing national security. These undercover agents flashed fake law enforcement badges, which were easily obtained through the Internet, to penetrate secure areas in 19 government offices and two major airports.

Criminals can just as easily purchase badges, such as these used in the undercover investigation, over the Internet and through mail order catalogs. The ease with which the General Accounting Office agents were able to enter sensitive areas in Federal Government buildings and secure parts of airports suggests that the same opportunity exists for criminals to assume false identities and engage in criminal behavior.

Fake badges and other forms of false identification are dangerous when used to commit crimes against innocent people who trust in the authority of law enforcement officials.

In two separate incidents in Tampa, FL, an unidentified man attempted to abduct a young boy by using a fake police badge.

In Chicago, IL, sheriff's police are investigating a series of home invasions and sexual

assaults against women by a man who flashes a police badge to get into victims' homes.

We must take action to prevent misuse of police badges and other forms of false identification to commit crimes. Beyond raising stakes for would-be criminals, a federal law is essential in addressing the interstate problem posed by increasing sales of counterfeit badges over the Internet and through mail order catalogs.

With the capable assistance of Representative MCCOLLUM and the Subcommittee on Crime, as well as the support of the Corrections Day Advisory Group, I believe that we are taking the necessary measures to prevent criminal activity involving the misuse of the law enforcement badge and other false identifications. I encourage my colleagues to support the Enhanced Federal Security Act of 2000.

I am delighted to have the support of the following cosponsors: Representatives BILL MCCOLLUM, JAMES A. BARCIA, SHELLEY BERKLEY, MERRILL COOK, BOB CLEMENT, GENE GREEN, GARY MILLER, SUE MYRICK, JIM RAMSTAD, ADAM SMITH, and PETER J. VISCLOSKEY.

I submit for the RECORD the revised bill, H.R. 4827.

H.R. 4827

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Enhanced Federal Security Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. ENTRY BY FALSE PRETENSES TO ANY REAL PROPERTY, VESSEL, OR AIRCRAFT OF THE UNITED STATES, OR SECURE AREA OF AIRPORT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 47 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 1036. Entry by false pretenses to any real property, vessel, or aircraft of the United States or secure area of any airport

"(a) Whoever, by any fraud or false pretense, enters or attempts to enter—

"(1) any real property belonging in whole or in part to, or leased by, the United States;

"(2) any vessel or aircraft belonging in whole or in part to, or leased by, the United States; or

"(3) any secure area of any airport;

shall be punished as provided in subsection (b) of this section.

"(b) The punishment for an offense under subsection (a) of this section is—

"(1) a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than five years, or both, if the offense is committed with the intent to commit any crime; or

"(2) a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than two years, or both, in any other case.

"(c) As used in this section—

"(1) the term 'secure area' means an area access to which is restricted by the airport authority or a public agency; and

"(2) the term 'airport' has the meaning given such term in section 47102 of title 49."

"(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 47 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

"1036. Entry by false pretenses to any real property, vessel, or aircraft of the United States or secure area of any airport."

SEC. 3. POLICE BADGES.

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 33 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 716. Police badges

"(a) Whoever—

"(1) knowingly transfers, transports, or receives, in interstate or foreign commerce, a counterfeit police badge;

"(2) knowingly transfers, in interstate or foreign commerce, a genuine police badge to an individual, knowing that such individual is not authorized to possess it under the law of the place in which the badge is the official badge of the police;

"(3) knowingly receives a genuine police badge in a transfer prohibited by paragraph (2); or

"(4) being a person not authorized to possess a genuine police badge under the law of the place in which the badge is the official badge of the police, knowingly transports that badge in interstate or foreign commerce;

shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than six months; or both.

"(b) It is a defense to a prosecution under this section that the badge is used or is intended to be used exclusively—

"(1) in a collection or exhibit;

"(2) for decorative purposes; or

"(3) for a dramatic presentation, such as a theatrical, film, or television production.

"(c) As used in this section—

"(1) the term 'genuine police badge' means an official badge issued by public authority to identify an individual as a law enforcement officer having police powers; and

"(2) the term 'counterfeit police badge' means an item that so resembles a police badge that it would deceive an ordinary individual into believing it was a genuine police badge."

"(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 33 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

"716. Police badges."

**SENSE OF CONGRESS STRONGLY
OBJECTING TO EFFORT TO
EXPEL HOLY SEE FROM UNITED
NATIONS****HON. DAVE WELDON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 253, which expresses the support of the Vatican retaining its status as a permanent observer at the United Nations. It is a tragedy that in the last few months, anti-Catholic pro-abortion groups have been attempting to remove the Holy See from its longstanding position of an observer at the U.N.

This is an attempt by extremists to silence the Vatican's defense of the family and the unborn. The Holy See has been a part of the U.N. since the beginning, over 50 years ago. In addition, the Holy See has formal diplomatic relations with 169 nations, including the United States and it maintains 179 permanent diplomatic missions abroad. I commend the Holy See for its commitment to the family, the unborn and serving the poor. The Holy See's contribution to the U.N. is very valuable. The Vatican's role is essential and vital for preserving family values and protecting life, particularly the most vulnerable.

HONORING COLONEL WILLIAM L.
WEBB, III

HON. NORMAN SISISKY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. SISISKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I pay special tribute to an outstanding soldier who has dedicated his life to the service of our Nation.

Colonel William L. Webb, III, will take off his uniform for the last time this month as he retires from the United States Army following more than 28 years of active duty service.

Colonel Webb's career culminated with duty as the Legislative Director for the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, where he served as the principal liaison between the Nation's most senior military officer and the U.S. Congress.

He prepared the Chairman, Vice Chairman and senior Joint General/Flag officers for congressional hearings, briefings, and testimony, and coordinated their legislative efforts on joint national security decisions with OSD, the Services, and the interagency community.

He interacted continuously with Members of Congress and their staffs, and developed and executed the strategy for presenting Joint Staff and Unified Command agendas to Congress.

Born in Tokyo, Japan, and raised in a military family, Colonel Webb has lived and traveled extensively throughout the United States, Europe and Asia.

His outstanding all-around high school performance in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, earned him a Presidential appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

While at West Point, he excelled as a varsity wrestler, student leader, and school spirit coordinator.

He graduated in 1972 with a concentration in National Security and Public Affairs.

In 1983, Colonel Webb earned a Masters Degree in Business Administration from the Harvard Business School, concentrating in General Management/Human Resource Management.

His military education includes completion of the Armor Officer Basic and Infantry Officer Advanced Courses, the Armed Forces Staff College, and the Army War College, as well as the Rotary Wing Aviator Course and Air Assault School.

He has served on Fellowships in the White House, the U.S. Congress, and the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies.

Colonel Webb has served in ground and air cavalry units in Germany, Colorado, Korea, Hawaii, Panama, and California, and commanded an aviation brigade in Germany, Bosnia, and Hungary.

His previous assignments include: Armored Cavalry Platoon Leader and Troop Executive Officer, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry; Aero Scout Section Commander, Aero Rifle Platoon Commander and Squadron Motor Officer, 4th Squadron, 7th Cavalry; Aero Weapons Platoon Commander, Assistant Squadron S3 and Ground Troop Commander, 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry; Associate Professor of Financial Management and Department Executive Officer at the United States Military Academy; White House Fellow in the Executive Office of President Reagan; Aviation Brigade S3 and Executive Officer, 7th Infantry Division (Light); Squadron Commander, 2nd Squadron, 9th

Cavalry; Senior Military Fellow at the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies; Congressional Staff Officer and Legislative Fellow in the Office of the Secretary of the Army; and Aviation Brigade Commander, 1st Armored Division.

Colonel Webb's combat experience includes service as Deputy Commander of the Aviation Brigade Task Force with Joint Task Force South and 7th Infantry Division (Light) during Operation Just Cause, the liberation of Panama.

From December 1995 to December 1996, Colonel Webb's aviation brigade was deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina as part of a multinational peace implementation force during Operation Joint Endeavor.

His Aviation Task Force was command and control headquarters for 120 Task Force Eagle helicopters that safely flew over 33,000 flying hours in treacherous conditions to compel peace in the war-ravaged Balkans.

Colonel Webb's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, three awards of the Meritorious Service Medal, three awards of the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star, Armed Forces Service Medal, NATO Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, and Army Superior Unit Award, as well as the Senior Army Aviator, Assault, Presidential Service, Joint Staff, and Army Staff Badges.

Colonel Webb's units have been recognized for the following Army level professional excellence awards: Draper Armor Leadership Award (1980), AAAA Outstanding Army Aviation Unit of the Year (1989, 1996), Army Outstanding Aviation Logistics Support Unit of the Year (1992, 1996), Combat Support Air Traffic Control Unit of the Year (1996), LTG Parker Top Army Combat Battalion of the Year (1995, 1996), and LTG Parker Overall Winner and Top Army Combat Support Battalion of the Year (1996).

Colonel Webb is committed to his community, where he has served actively in church, neighborhood, youth sports, welfare, and family support activities.

He is blessed by his wife, Kathryn, and their children, David (19), Kristy (17), and Willy (9). Their life together is thoroughly focused on service to the Lord and their country, as well as enjoyment of family, friends, sports, travel, and people.

In 1990, First Lady Barbara Bush honored the Webb family as a recipient of the Great American Family Award.

Colonel Webb is a dynamic and resourceful Army officer who throughout his career has proven to be an indispensable professional.

His contributions and distinguished service will have long-term benefits for both the military and our Nation he so proudly served.

As Colonel Webb enters into his new profession, we will certainly miss him and wish him and his family the very best.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PHASED
RETIREMENT LIBERALIZATION
ACT

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, today I join my colleague Senator Grassley in introducing the Phased Retirement Liberalization (PRL) Act. This legislation would allow in-service distributions from defined benefit plans once a participant has reached the earliest of the plan's normal retirement age, age 59½, or 30 years of service. By providing for more flexible retirement options in defined benefit plans, this legislation will benefit employers and workers alike.

Over the next 20 years, the aging of the baby boom generation and other demographic factors will transform the very nature of retirement. These factors, which include a shrinking labor supply, increased life expectancy, the desire of remain active, and a greater need for financial security, will combine to change the concept of retirement from an "on-off" switch to a wide spectrum of options, including phased retirement. As embodied in the PRL legislation, phased retirement would allow individuals to continue working for their current employer even after they begin drawing down their pension benefits.

Many older Americans who want to continue working for their employer find that it makes more sense to switch jobs simply so that they can continue working and still receive their pension benefit. Other workers retire from their employer and start receiving pension benefits; only to be rehired later—either as a full-time or part-time employee or as an independent contractor. While these arrangements have allowed some workers to take advantage of phased retirement, permitting in-service distributions from defined benefit plans at age 59½ or 30 years of service will allow more employers to offer flexible retirement programs.

Employers have expressed a keen interest in phased retirement as a method of retaining skilled older workers. In a survey of 586 larger employers conducted by Watson Wyatt in 1999, 60 percent of employers reported they were having difficulty attracting workers, and fully 70 percent agreed that implementing a phased retirement program is a viable strategy for addressing labor shortages. Sixteen percent of employers surveyed reported that they offer phased retirement, while another 28 percent said they are interested in establishing such programs in the next two to three years. Employers currently offering phased retirement report that it enables them to retain skilled older workers.

Mr. Speaker, our nation's pension laws have not kept pace with the need for flexible approaches to retirement. Under current law, defined benefit plans are permitted to make in-service distributions to active employees only if they have reached the plan's "normal retirement age." Under our legislation, however, the vast majority of defined benefit plans would have the flexibility to adopt a phased retirement arrangement.

Congress recently recognized the changing nature of the workforce and of retirement by passing legislation to eliminate the Social Security earnings test for beneficiaries age 65

and older. It is time that Congress took a similar step in the private sector by examining phased retirement proposals.

COMMENDING JUD M. LOCKWOOD'S ARTICLE ON THE AMERICAN FLAG

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, when I was in my district over the 4th of July weekend, I read a newspaper article in my hometown paper that deserves the attention of the House.

The article explains how Jud M. Lockwood, of Spokane, WA, came to write a very moving paean to the American flag. Mr. Lockwood is a veteran of World War Two and he fought in North Africa and Europe. He knows first-hand of the sacrifices our fellow Americans have made to defend our nation and believes that the American flag is the living symbol of the price of freedom.

Last year, Mr. Lockwood decided to write the story of the American flag. In five short paragraphs, writing from the point of view of the flag itself, the story brings to life the silent symbol of America. Mr. Lockwood is urging all Americans to take the time to read the story of our flag. I wish to join his crusade by entering into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD Mr. Lockwood's story, as well as the newspaper article describing his passionate efforts to promote this worthy cause.

Thank you Jud Lockwood, both for reminding Americans about the history and symbolism of our flag, but also for standing up for the flag in its time of need more than 50 years ago.

AN INSPIRATION FOR PATRIOTISM

(By Tracy Eilig)

In a neon orange Hawaiian shirt, Jud Lockwood folds his arms behind his head, rocks back in his easy chair and tries to explain how the idea came to him.

He can't. He hasn't a clue. He woke up one morning and the idea was in his head, like a baby in a basket left on the doorstep.

But he's taken care of it ever since. Or, maybe, the idea has taken care of him.

"I woke up and thought, 'I fought hard for the American flag and so did millions of others, and maybe I could write a story to give it the credit it deserves,'" he said.

His wife, Ruth, was skeptical. "Jud, you can't even write a good letter," she said.

But Lockwood sat down in his living room last fall with a yellow legal pad in hand and wrote. He came up with five paragraphs and 479 words that he wants everyone in America to read.

Lockwood calls it a story. But it's not really a story or a poem. It takes the point of view of the flag talking about itself in a way that ends up like a history lesson, a reminder and an admonition. It's sort of a red-white-and-blue Post-it note of patriotism;

"When you pledge your allegiance to me, remember that it stands for 'Liberty and justice for all.' Please rest assured that I will fly over your last resting place. Love and respect me as I shall be yours forever."

That's the final paragraph. It brings tears to Lockwood's eyes.

"My thrust is to get it out to the people because we should all respect the flag," he said, "To me, the flag is priceless. I am a

firm believer that it's an emblem of peace in the world and as long as the flag flies we're safe."

A retired insurance salesman, former mayor of Omak, Wash., and former manager of the Omak Chamber of Commerce, the octogenarian and his wife moved to Spokane four years ago.

He is a World War II veteran, having fought in North Africa and Europe. He remembers watching fleets of B-17s fly over Italy on their way to bomb German targets. Some of the planes would vanish in a black cloud, in taking a direct hit from anti-aircraft fire.

In Tunis, he huddled with the rest of the troops as German Messerschmitt fighters strafed and bombed their positions.

"You're just at their mercy," he said.

It was a part of the war that Lockwood brought home with him in 1945 and lingered for a while before vanishing. Sitting at the dinner table, the sound of an airplane would make him race outside and dive for cover.

"I think you get fear built up in you," he said.

But Lockwood would do it again. He'd go to war for his country again even at his age.

"Freedom is priceless as far as I'm concerned," he said.

To Lockwood the flag is the embodiment of that freedom and everyone should respect it. It's that belief that has driven him for months.

With the help of a neighbor in his apartment complex, Lockwood got his flag story edited. With the help of the building manager, he got it formatted on paper with stars in the background and stripes around the border. With the encouragement of his wife, daughter and strangers he's met along the way, he's tried to sell his admonition to respect the flag.

He copyrighted his story and then made himself business cards. He puts blue and red edging on them by hand with a felt-tip marker. He finishes them with a sticker of, naturally, an American flag.

He's gone to schools. To fire departments. To the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. Everywhere, he tries to sell copies of his flag story.

"Do you realize 600,000 immigrants enter the country annually?" he said.

Every one of them should have a copy, Lockwood thinks. Why not?

He's taken his story to congressmen. He's offered it to banks. He'd like it to be printed on the back of brochures for political candidates. He's sold about 500 trying to cover his expenses and given away hundreds of other copies.

"I would like to get this into a national concern. Maybe someday, one of my children will take over," he said. "I would like to see the flag story on the Statue of Liberty, put into bronze or something."

Lockwood woke up one morning with his version of the American dream. He took care of it, made it grow. It's taking care of him, too.

Before the idea for his flag story came to him, Lockwood was feeling a little adrift.

"I really didn't do much. I'd walk downtown, got involved with my church. Basically, I don't think I had a lot of direction until this bombshell—this story hit," he said. "I wonder if I didn't have this, what really would I be doing?"

But it's a question he doesn't need to probe. He's got his mission.

"I get carried away, each day I get up seeing where I can sell them. I think the possibilities are unlimited. It keeps me going, keeps me active," Lockwood said. "It gives me a goal every day to go out and meet people."

I AM YOUR FLAG—THE AMERICAN FLAG

I am also known as the Grand Old Flag. I am the greatest flag in the world. I am thrilled and overjoyed that I can represent you. As I fly from many high and lofty heights, you honor me from places such as the United States capital, state capitals, your home, city halls, cemeteries, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and the island of Iwo Jima. I am doing my best to remind you that I represent the home of the brave and the land of the free.

My beginning is uncertain. Some scholars claim that Francis Hopkins designed me, while other say Betsy Ross made me. Which-ever, it doesn't change my goals. It has been a grand and glorious life for me. I have led this great country in thousands of parades. I have been saluted by millions, and sung to at events of all kinds. I am happy to wave to you as a symbol of peace and hope. I am also known as Old Glory. What an honor to have a name like that. I tingle with pride when you sing the Star Spangled Banner, or graciously give the Pledge Of Allegiance.

Sometimes I get cold and lonesome flying high above. The wind whips me in many directions, but my life is to give you courage and direction. As I see a big storm approaching, I become somewhat concerned and brace myself for the wind, rain, hail, sleet, snow or whatever nature has in store. Being afraid of the elements doesn't hurt my pride because the American people are thinking of me, and what I proudly stand for.

For centuries I have been the symbol of peace and honor, yet I have been burned, tattered, and torn by warfare. I have been cursed, worn on people's anatomy, hairpieces and clothing. I don't like it! It's disrespectful of my intent and purpose to represent freedom. At times it is hard for me to realize that I have been the emblem of peace and justice for so many years. Why do some people want to destroy me, and what I stand for? I hope that my days as your flag are not numbered. Cherish me, respect and love me for centuries to come. Sometimes I get so battered, torn and faded that I need to be replaced. I know that one of my brothers or sisters is willing and able to take my place as Old Glory. When my time to depart arrives, I never want to leave without knowing that another flag is flying for you on top of a flagpole or at half-mast in honor of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our great country.

When you pledge your allegiance to me, remember that it stands for liberty and justice for all. Please rest assured that I will fly over your last resting place. Love and respect me as I shall be forever yours.

INCREASE OF \$40 MILLION TO THE ENERGY AND WATER APPROPRIATION ALLOCATION

HON. MATT SALMON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, Mr. MARK UDALL and I recently introduced, and Chairman PACKARD accepted, an amendment to add \$40 million to the FY 2001 Energy and Water budget. The following chart appropriates that \$40 million in a manner agreed upon by Chairman PACKARD. I submit this chart for inclusion in the RECORD.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS—RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES—SALMON/M. UDALL/BOEHLERT/KAPTUR AMENDMENT

[In millions of dollars]

Program	FY00 actual	FY01 request	FY01 house	Amendment adds	Program totals
Solar bldgs.	2	4.5	2	+1.95	3.95
PV	65.9	82	67	+8.775	75.775
CS power	15.2	15	6	+7.8	13.8
Biopower	31.8	48	32	+1.4625	33.4625
Biofuels	38.9	54.4	42.26	+3.9	46.16
Wind	32.5	50.5	33.28	+3.9	37.18
REPI	1.5	4	1	+2.925	3.925
RE prog support	4.9	6.5	4	.....	4
Int'l Renewable	3.8	11.5	4	.....	4
NREL	1.1	1.9	4	.....	4
Geotherman	23.6	27	24	+2.925	26.925
Hydrogen	24.5	23	22	+1	23
Hydropower	5	5	5	+4.875	5.4875
Renewable Indians	4	5	2	.....	2
Elect. sys.	37.8	48	37	+4.875	41.875
Emissions .....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Transmission	3	11	5	.....	5
(DistPower) .....	.....	(3)	(3)	(+ .975)	(3.975)
HTS	31.4	32	28	+3.9	31.9
Storage	3.4	5	4	.....	4
DOE energy mgmt	0	5	2	.....	2
Federal buildings	4	¹ (6)	0	.....	0
Program direction	17.72	18.159	18.159	.....	18.159
Totals	314.22	409.459	305.699	+40	345.699

¹ Not requested.

OPPOSITION TO LANGUAGE PERMITTING LARGER MICROENTERPRISE LOANS

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, the following is an explanation of the purposes of a point of order I made relative to legislative language on microenterprise loans that I did not have the opportunity to deliver in full on the floor. I include it here so that my purposes in making the point of order are clear.

Mr. Chairman, I make a point of order against the language appearing in the bill beginning with "Provided" on page 11, line 23, through page 12, line 8, on the ground that it violates clause 2 of Rule XXI.

The Rule prohibits changes to law on general appropriations bills. This language imposes conditions on the microenterprise program and clearly changes existing law by relaxing minimum lending provisions.

The House considered the issue of microenterprise lending in 1999 when it passed H.R. 1143. A counterpart to that bill has been reported by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and is awaiting floor action, I hope

we will be able to complete our consideration of it before long.

If the Administration, which has historically wanted to relax these standards, wished to engage further with the Congress on this issue, they should have approached the Committee with legislative jurisdiction, the Committee on International Relations.

That is an unfortunate attitude that we have seen from time to time in this and other Administrations and I regret that we have to consume the time of the Committee in dealing with this sort of matter in this way.

Accordingly, Mr. Chairman, I must respectfully insist on my point of order.